THE ELIZABETH-CITY STAR
AND
North-Carolina Eastern Intelligencer.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY BENJAMIN ALBERTSON, AT THREE DOLLARS PER ANNUM, OR TWO DOLLARS FOR SIX MONTHS, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

Vol VI | Elizabeth-City, N. C. Saturday, January 27, 1827. | No. 6.

TERMS.

☞ *No paper discontinued till directions to that effect are given, and arrearages paid, but at the option of the Editor.*

☞ *Advertisements of no more length than breadth, neatly inserted three times for a dollar, and twenty five cents for each continuance; longer ones in the same proportion.*

☞ *Advertisements will be continued until forbid, and charged accordingly, unless otherwise marked by the writers. No advertisement will be inserted for less than one dollar.*

☞ *Persons at a distance must accompany their advertisements with the money, or they will not be inserted.*

☞ *Letters addressed to the Editor must be postpaid, or they will not be lifted.*

New and Cheap Store.

The Subscribers have the pleasure of informing their friends and the public, that they have taken that commodious Store, next door to Capt. Pickett's Tavern, where they have now opened and propose to keep constantly on hand a general assortment of

Dry Goods, Groceries, Crockery Ware, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, &c. &c.

which they will sell low, for cash or produce.

JAS. A. ARMISTEAD & Co.
Elizabeth-City, Dec. 23 *Tf*

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE

We have received an assortment of Ladies and Misses Morocco and Seal skin SHOES.
Jan. 6.

Hertford Academy

The exercises of this institution, will commence on Monday the first of January next under the direction of Mr. *Thomas A. Hardy.* The course of instruction will comprise the various branches of an English education, and the rudiments of the Latin language. For terms, &c. apply to the teacher.

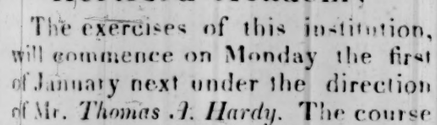
By order of the Trustees.

☞ Good accommodations for boarders may be obtained in the Town.
Dec 23. *Tt*

FOR RENT,

A Store House 25 feet in front, and 18 feet deep, with two brick chimneys and a piazza, and a new Ware House in the most central part of Durants Neck, on the main road. It is a most eligible situation for mercantile business, being in the midst of a thickly settled neighborhood, and convenient to several landings on Little River, Albemarle Sound, and Perquimans River.—There is on the adjoining lot a new house where comfortable board may be had if required. Apply to
THOS. LAYDEN on the Premises.
Dec. 23, 1826. *Rt*

CHEAP PROPERTY.



The subscriber having made arrangements for a removal from his present residence, will sell upon a liberal credit, that well located and improved Property in the Town of Hertford which he at this time occupies, embracing three Lots, with a commodious Dwelling House and every necessary out house, now in good repair. No property in the said town can be better calculated for a private residence and at the same time for business.—His present price is *Fifteen Hundred Dollars, only*

Jonathan H. Jacocks.
Hertford Nov. 2.—Dec. 22. *Tf*

BLANKS.

WARRANTS for Pasquotank, Camden, and Currituck Counties, printed and for sale at this Office.

Blanks for sale at this office

Dry Goods, Groceries, &c.

The Subscriber has now on hand an extensive and general assortment of Dry Goods, and a complete assortment of Groceries, viz.
Flour, Rum, Brandy, Whiskey, Sugar, Coffee, Tea, Molasses, Raisins, Cheese, Chocolate, Tobacco, Salt, &c. &c.

ALSO,

100 bbls. Newark Cider,
50 do. Apples,
And a choice lot of Westphalia HAMS,
Just received a few boxes of excellent leather SHOES, mens, womens and boys &c.

Mathew Cluff.
Elizabeth-City, Jan. 20.

Negroes Wanted.

The Subscriber wishes to purchase 8 or 10 male negroes between the ages of 15 and 25 years.

William B. Shepard
January 20. *Et*

JUST RECEIVED

By the schr. New Sophronia, from Grenada

19 puncheons Rum,
25 do. molasses, prime quality.
Also, by Schr. Gen. Warren, Vinal, from Boston, and sloop Mary, Simmons, from Providence, R. I.
25 bbls N. E. Rum,
500 bushels Irish Potatoes,
10 bbls. Onions,

ALSO, AFLOAT,

1500 bushels Cadiz Salt,
Rice, Molasses, Coffee and Sugar. *For Sale by*

A. Fobes, jun.
Fobesville, Jan. 20.

Wanted to Purchase

Or to hire for the year, a middle aged negro Woman without children, who can Cook, Wash and Iron; for which a liberal price will be given. Enquire at this Office.
January 20.

NOTICE.

Mrs. Albertson takes this method to inform the public, that she has opened the House (formerly the City Hotel in Elizabeth-City) as a House of

Private Entertainment and Boarding House,

where genteel travellers and their horses can be accommodated, and a few boarders by the month or year. She will also receive a few Children, students at the Academy, as boarders, if offered.
Elizabeth-City, Sept. 9:

SALT.

Just received by Schooner Philinda, Linnell, from Antigua via St. Bartholomews, & also by Schr. Superb, Hope, from Boston

7 barrels Sweet Cider,
20 barrels Beef,
7000 lbs. Cheese,
Irish Potatoes,
Linnen Wheels,
Flour, &c. &c.
For Sale by

A. Fobes, jun.
Elizabeth-City, Jan. 13.

FOR SALE.

37 Hhds. prime retailing molasses.

L. C. Moore.
Elizabeth-City, January 6. *Et*

MASONIC.

Eastern Lodge meets in Elizabeth City the first and third Mondays in every month, and the Harmony Chapter meets the second and fourth Mondays.

Bills of Lading and Shipping Articles for sale at this Office.

Farmer's Repository.

Sketches on Agriculture.

By A. W. Foster, Esq. of Greensburgh, Pa. President of the Westmoreland Agricultural Society. [Concluded

No system of farming can be perfect that does not embrace in its articles the practice of soiling cattle. Perhaps there are objections to its general adoption at present in this country. A practice so much the reverse of this, of suffering cattle to pasture the meadows late in the fall, through the winter, and early in the spring, cannot be too strongly reprobated. It is a ruinous anticipation of the approaching crop, and is "*killing the goose that laid the golden egg.*" More attention in providing a supply of fodder, would, at all times, supersede the necessity of resorting to a means so pregnant with injury, and would also enable the farmer, for a great part of the summer, to keep his work horses in the stable, (and which ought to be done by every farmer, except for a few weeks in the spring of the year, when the early grass operates as physic, and in that respect is beneficial,) where they would always be convenient, and much more able to perform the necessary labor, and not to be exposed, in the fall of the year, to the deleterious effects produced by eating grass containing so little nutrition, (so little saccharine juice, which abounds in all vegetables growing in the early part of the summer,) that the digestive faculties imperfectly perform their offices, fermentation takes place, and an acid is produced on the stomach, nausea prevails, and a constant discharge of saliva, or water, is the consequence, gradually weakening the animal, and rendering him unfit for active service. Although little is due to those who will persevere in error, yet, for the information of such, it may be mentioned, as the easiest way of remedying this evil, or rather curing this disease, that by salting their horses on a clay bank, if the earth be impregnated with lime stone, or occasionally giving them lime water to drink, the acid will be neutrlized, and of course the disease removed. The same effect will be produced by pulverizing chalk or limestone, or a small quantity of lime or potash, and mixing it with their feed. There is a point of time when each particular kind of vegetable contains the greatest quantity of saccharine juice, (or sugar) and other nutritious properties. The exact point of time, it may be impossible to tell; but a few days sooner or later will not be material; the nearer, however, to that point of time the grass shall be cut, the more nourishment it will contain.—Grass ought not to be cut in wet weather, with the hopes of curing it in dry weather; it ought to have a few days of hot sun before cutting. The juices will be richer in the latter case; even the leaf and stem contain a glutinous substance which is nutritive, but which is washed off by rain. This is more remarkable in the tobacco leaf, and is well known by all growers of that plant, but is more or less so in all vegetables. The difference in grass, as to the nutritive quality, between that cut in dry weather, even when the dew is off, letting it remain in swath during that day, the ensuing day putting it up in loose windrows in the forenoon, and in the afternoon in close windrows and in the evening into small haycocks; where during the night it will undergo a heat or partial fermentation, and accumulate a greater portion of saccharine juice from the atmosphere, (as the pumice of apples will, after being ground, by remaining one night in the trough previous to making into cider,) then the next day opening them; and putting two of these haycocks into one, and hauling it in on that or the day following, and the grass cut in wet weather, and suffering the alternate changes of rain and sunshine, is from fifty to one hundred per cent.

The true principle in curing grass is to effect it as much as possible with the wind, and as little exposed to the sun or rain as practicable. The leaving of the hay one day in swath, is favorable, not only by producing a partial fermentation to increase its nutritive qualities, but at the same time by opening the pores, permit the watery particles to escape, when exposed to the air, without destroying the nutritive parts or decomposing the plant. The same effect is further produced by putting it in haycocks. The fermentation it would otherwise undergo in the mow, where it would be subject to mould from want of exposure to the air, to remove the water generated in the process of fermentation. The tendency of the sun and rain, particularly where they operate in succession, is to produce a decomposition of the parts, and destroy the nutritive quality of the grass.

In the raising of plants as well as animals, much of the future growth will depend on the early culture or nourishment they receive. If either be stinted when young, it will be in vain to restore them to a healthy, vigorous, and luxuriant state. The germ has assumed its organic form, and the fibres have become rigid and contracted to a particular scale, by which their future growth will be regulated.

The procuring the best seed is at all times important. This may be improved by selecting the best heads or ears, those earliest ripe and the most productive. The same observation applies in still greater force, to raising cattle. By, in the first place, procuring the best to be obtained; then by killing or disposing of the most imperfect of the young, and preserving the best, and still further improving the breed by judicious crosses, a stock of cattle might soon be raised on any farm, to appear almost a distinct species from those in the neighborhood. In this mode the celebrated Mr. Bakewell proceeded with so much success in England.

The uncertainty of the market for our great staple, should direct the attention of the farmer to variety in his productions. Many subjects of profitable enterprise might be suggested. The cultivation of the castor bean would well reward the industry employed. The raising of tobacco, for which our soil and climate is admirably adapted, only requires a little energy and experience to be made a profitable article of cultivation. Our soil, so much superior to that on which it is profitably raised in Maryland and Virginia, and having much land yet to clear, from which prime tobacco is always raised, the value of the produce, compared with the weight of carriage to market of this and most other articles, ought to induce farmers to make the experiment on a large scale. For the benefit of such as might be disposed to make the experiment, a few observations respecting its culture and mode of curing, will be made.

It is of importance, in the first place, to procure the best seed, of which there is an endless variety. The bright yellow, which has for some years commanded the highest price in Baltimore, and which is generally shipped for the Hamburgh market, has been successfully cultivated by Mr. Dorsey, of Somerset county, on the top of the Alleghany mountains.—This tobacco requires to be fired to give it the fine color, and it is said to be used by the ladies of Hamburg for smoking, and also to be used in dyeing silks.—This tobacco makes excellent wrappers for segars, but wants the flavor of the Havana tobacco, or of that raised here from the Havana seed, and is unfit for the body of the segar.

Tobacco raised for making segars, or for chewing, need not be cured by fire, provided it is planted at an early period, so as to be sufficiently ripe for cutting in the beginning of August, when a sufficient period of warm weather may be expected to remain for its being perfectly cured, as it will undergo the process of curing more in one day in the warm weather of August, than a week of cold weather in September or October.—Indeed it is impossible to cure it perfectly in the longest period, unless the weather be warm. There is no danger of tobacco being injured here by the frost. The only danger is, that it cannot be cut soon enough to cure it unless by artificial heat.

The plants should, therefore, be raised in a hot bed so that they may be set out at an early period, say the middle of May, and be ready for cutting early in August, as well to save the expense and risk of firing, as, by ripening under a hot sun, their aromatic quality will be increased. The plant set out at this period will also be more luxuriant, and in general seasons be in less danger of dry weather at the time of planting, by which much labor will be saved in covering and uncovering the plants.

The hot bed is easily made, and may of the simplest construction.—A few rails built up in the form of the foundation of a corn crib, say thirty inches high, filled to near the top with horse stable manure, taken from the heap when warm and in a state of fermentation, and covered eight or ten inches with garden mould, and a few quarts of wood ashes mixed with it, will answer the purpose well. The seed may be put in about the first of March, and in extremely cold weather, a straw mat put over the bed. A complete hot bed, with glass, will, it is true, bring the plants forward sooner, but is too expensive for common use.

New ground will certainly produce the finest colored and most highly flavored tobacco. It will do well for a second year's crop. Were I to choose a favorite spot, it would be a south eastern exposure; the soil a pebbly or sandy gravel for its base, with virgin earth on the surface, on which hickory grubbs, sassafras, and grape wine grew.

The plants may be set in small hills, or on the edge of two furrows thrown together with the plough, three feet apart one way, and two feet and a half the other. This will admit a shovel plough to pass thro' one way, and save much labor in hoeing. In a few weeks after being planted, they must be hoed, and the grass and weed kept down. The cutworm is frequently troublesome shortly after planting. I know of no other means of destroying them than by setting hands to search for them at day break, when they will be found on the surface, but disappear before sunrise.

The tobacco worm makes its appearance about the first of July, and will be very destructive if suffered to continue its depredations. A turkey hen, with a few chickens, will do more to rid you of this trouble than half a dozen negroes. The tobacco must be carefully suckered. A small boy will do this best. His fingers can reach furthest down between the leaf and the stalk, and prevent a new one starting from the same place.—When the buds come out, or as it is called, when the tobacco is in button, it must be topped. If done immediately after the buttons appear, the tobacco will be the larger and thicker in the leaf, but not of so fine a quality.

The time of cutting is indicated by the leaf becoming puckered, something resembling the raised part of a domestic bed-quilt, by the insertion of cotton in imitation of the white Marseilles; by this raised part turning yellow, like the hickory leaf, and a glutinous substance covering the leaf, which will almost stick to your hand.

There is a point of time most proper to cut each particular plant. I prefer leaving it to pass beyond that point to falling short of it. There is less risk in its curing well. One essential point to be observed, which has been already hinted at, is not to cut the tobacco for two or three days after rain. The rain washes off the glutinous substance mentioned, and the tobacco, if cut without this substance, will be greatly deficient in weight and quality.

Tobacco consists of several substances; some volatile, others fixed. The former are the water, the green, coloring matter, and the essential oil, in which the aromatic quality exists, as also the narcotic quality. The object and process of curing tobacco is, to get rid of the water and green coloring matter, without destroying the other less volatile parts. The tobacco when cut, which may be from 4 to 6 o'clock in the afternoon, as the day may be cool or hot, should be put gently in small heaps, or singly, the top from the sun, until the leaves and the stems completely relax, which will be in half an hour to an hour, according to the state of the weather; then taken to the tobacco house, and there piled up in one heap, having as little surface exposed as possible; and if convenient, an old blanket, &c. may be thrown over the whole. Early next morning, say 6 to 8 o'clock, it will be found to be heated, and to have un-

dergone a sweat. It should then be immediately hung up on poles, either by splitting the stalks, if large, or by driving small pegs of wood into the butt end of the stalk. The tobacco, when hung up in rows, must touch each other, and in a few days, as it relaxes more, the poles must be closed up, so as to keep the rows in contact. This must be repeated every few days for two or three weeks. Should a long period of wet weather come on, it may be necessary to separate them, to prevent the tobacco from moulding.

The *rationale* of the process is this. By heating the tobacco the first night it is put in heap, a fermentation or partial decomposition, takes place, and the pores become opened sufficiently to permit the watery part to escape. In the escape of the watery part, which is the most volatile, if a single stalk be hung up by itself, and exposed to a current of air, this will be so rapidly effected that but a small part of the coloring matter will have escaped, and the pores being closed after the escape of the water, the tobacco will forever remain in an uncured state: hence the necessity of keeping the tobacco closely in contact, to prevent the sudden escape of the water, to preserve the pores open until the green coloring matter can all escape. It is even beneficial, in case of dry weather, that it should be cured on an earthen floor, or that a bucket of water should be occasionally thrown under the tobacco. If the tobacco is suffered to remain in heap until 10 or 11 o'clock in the day after placed first in the house, a decomposition would take place, and the aromatic quality would all escape, and the tobacco, when dry, would resemble the color of bohea or black tea, and be perfectly useless. As the green coloring matter gradually escapes, the tobacco assumes the bright yellow color of the hickory leaf when about to fall from the tree; a new combination, however, soon takes place, by the union of the oxygen of the atmosphere and the tannin principle in the tobacco, and it assumes a brown or reddish color. Therefore, the sooner after the complete yellow color is produced the poles are opened, the tobacco exposed, and immediately dried, and put away in bulk, as it is called, the better.

The putting it away in bulk, is no more than stripping the leaves from the stalk, tying them up in hands at the stem, and the hand being about 1 1-2 inches in diameter, and tied round neatly by an indifferent leaf.—Careful persons make three parcels, one from the leaves near the top, one from the middle leaves, which are the best, and the other from the butt end of the stalk.

When made into hands, it may be packed in large boxes, or at the side of the wall, making the tops overlap each other, so as to preserve regularity in the pile. A moderate weight should then be placed on it to keep it compact. It will then, in the course of the winter and ensuing spring, undergo a partial fermentation, and by the time the leaves are coming out, be found to be moist, or in a sweat, as it is termed, and have a sensible degree of heat above the state of the surrounding atmosphere. It must then be unpacked, exposed to the air until it becomes completely dry, and as soon as it becomes sufficiently relaxed for the purpose, which it will do in a day or two of wet weather, be repacked and put in press, and remain there until the ensuing fall, when it is considered fit for market.

[*Farmers' & Mechanics' Mag. Almanac.*

ADDRESS

FROM THE YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS IN NORTH CAROLINA,

Held in the 11th Month, 1826, to the Quarterly, Monthly, and Preparative Meetings, which constitute it; on the subject of removing the People of Colour under Friends' care to Free Governments.

It appears from the proceedings of our meeting for sufferings, as presented to this meeting, that there have been conveyed unto Free Governments since last year, about 300 of the people of colour under the care of this Yearly Meeting; having been left to their choice of places. Upwards of 40 have been taken to Liberia; 119 to Hayti, 11 to Philadelphia; and the remainder to Ohio and Indiana; the expences of which has been about $3,500, About 600 are still remaining. It also appears that the following donations have been made us, to aid in this benevolent work; viz: $2,914 16 from an individual of the city of Philadelphia; $250 from the Yearly Meeting of N. York; $1000 from the Yearly Meeting of Rhode Island; $500 from the Meeting for Sufferings of Philadelphia; and $100 from an individual of Burlington, New Jersey. It further appears from the reports of the agents, that about 500 of the remaining People of Color are willing to emigrate to free Governments; upwards of 300 to Liberia; and the other 200 or thereabouts to other places All that is wanting are sufficient funds and opportunity. A donation of $500 has been made by our Meeting for Sufferings to the Colonization Society, to assist them in chartering a vessel the present fall, and $300 more pledged, in case their funds should not be adequate. Although it appears from the above statement that a part of our stock has not yet been expended, yet it will far short of completing the operations in view, in regard to this momentous work We have therefore, cordially united in this Meeting, to endeavor to raise the sum of 2000 dollars; and although this is double what we directed last year, yet we think the importance of the subject, and the danger of delay, require it. It was referred to the Representatives to be apportioned among the Quarterly Meetings, to be raised, and handed into the hands of the Treasurer.

And now, dear friends, notwithstanding all the varied difficulties attending this subject, it appears to us that the blessing of Divine Providence has attended our exertions, in a peculiar manner. Our motive in giving you this information and address, is from a hope that it will excite, in all the members of this Yearly Meeting, a concern harmoniously to co-operate with the Meeting for Sufferings, and the agents, in their prompt and indefatigable exertions, in acting in behalf of the Society, for these degraded people. Do we not feel ourselves under the strongest obligations of acknowledgment to our distant brethren, for their generous aid? Which ought to stimulate us the more cheerfully to contribute to this good work. If the father of mercies should continue to smile on our operations, we shall in a year or two more, in all probability, be released from the heavier part of this burden; and feel the inexpressible consolation of having plucked from the jaws of slavery, a thousand of our fellow beings, and placed them in free governments, where they may enjoy the privileges of citizens and the additional satisfaction of having been instrumental in performing a work which will doubtless have a very striking influence on the community at large and assist in paving the way for the mitigation or removal of one of the greatest evils that ever afflicted the human race.

Signed on behalf of the aforesaid meeting.

JEREMIAH HUBBARD, Clerk.

State Legislature

IN SENATE.

Thursday, January 4.

Mr. King presented sundry resolutions on the subject of deeds for the conveyance of land, deeds of trust, mortgages and bills of sale; which were referred to the Judiciary committee.

Mr. Gray presented the memorial of a Manumission Society of this State, praying that a law be passed to prohibit the introduction of Slaves into this State. Referred to the comm tee on that part of the Governor's message relating to the migration of free people of colour into this State.

A select joint committee was appointed on the part of the Governor's message relating to the amendment of the Constitution of the U. States, as to the abolition of slavery, and resolutions therein referred to, consisting on the part of the House, of Messrs. Hill of Wilmington, R. H. Jones, Morehead, Iredell and Greene, and on the part of the Senate, of Messrs. Pickett, Speight of Green, M'Kay, Forney, and Sneed.

Friday, January 5.

Mr. Seawell submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the committee on education be instructed to inquire into the expediency of raising by lottery, the sum of $630,000, to be distributed, $10,000 to each county.

The bill regarding the migration of free people of colour, was ordered to be printed, and made the order of the day for Wednesday next.

On motion of Mr. Forney, it was

Resolved, That a joint select committee be appointed to present a memorial to Congress, to extinguish the Indian title to all the lands belonging to this State, within the limits of the Cherokee nation.

Saturday, January 6.

Mr. Pickett from the Judiciary committee reported the following bills: a bill to make the printed acts an evidence in all the courts of justice, which was amended, agreed to, read the 3d time, and engrossed; a bill to explain and amend an act, passed in 1822, authorising the county courts to require administrators and others to give *counter* security upon the petition of those securities—passed its first reading; a bill regulating the duty of grand jurors, regarding presentments for affrays and assault and battery, with an amendment—agreed to; and a bill to amend the emancipation laws—read once.

Mr. M'Kay presented sundry resolutions on the subject of draining the swamp lands of the State—referred to a committee of the whole House, and made the order of the day for Monday next.

Mr. Wilson, of Camden, presented a bill to authorise the justices of the county courts of Camden, to class their justices, and for other purposes; which was read 3 times, and ordered to be engrossed, and amended so as to apply to Currituck

Monday, January 8.

Mr. Hill, of Franklin, reported that Lawrence & Lemay were elected public public printers, which report was concurred in.

On motion of Mr. M'Leary, the committee on the judiciary were instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the law respecting executors and administrators, as to make their settlements with the court final, at some limited time after the heirs come of age.

Mr. Beard of Rowan, presented a bill to establish a medical society, and to regulate the practice of physic and surgery in this State, which was read the first time, and referred to a select committee.

Tuesday, January 9.

A message from the other House, proposing to ballot to-day for two Judges, to supply the vacancies occasioned by the resignation of Judge Nash, and the death of Judge Paxton—agreed to.

The proposition from the other House, that the Governor's message, and the resolution of the Legislature of Georgia which accompanied it, be referred to a select joint committee, was agreed to.

Mr. Forney, from the committee of propooitions and grievances, to whom was referred the bill to repeal the act of 1823, to annex part of Currituck to Hyde county, reported the said bill, and with sundry amendments—it was agreed to, and made the order of the day for to-morrow.

Mr. Bell presented a memorial of the Pasquotank Auxiliary Colonization Society—referred to the joint committee appointed on the memorial of the American Colonization Society.

Mr. Stokes, from the committee of Finance, reported a bill to allow further time for the payment of the purchase money on entries for vacant land made in 1824, which lapsed on the 15th December, 1826. Which passed its first reading.

On motion of Mr. Speight, of Greene, the bill to give to the people the election of sheriffs, was postponed indefinitely.

Mr. Sneed, from the committee appointed to conduct the balloting for two Judges of the Superior Courts, reported that Robert Strange was duly elected.—Concurred in.

Wednesday, Jan. 10.

On motion of Mr. Williams, of Martin, the committee on the Judiciary were instructed to inquire into the expediency of passing a law, compelling the owners of slaves to pay the burial charges, when a jury of inquest have been held over their bodies.

Mr. Forney, from the committee appointed to conduct the balloting for a Judge of the Superior Courts, reported that James Martin, of Rowan county, was duly elected. Concurred in.

Mr. Stokes presented a bill to regulate the payment of claims against the several counties in this State; which passed its first reading.

On motion of Mr. M'Kay, the committee of Finance were instructed to inquire into the expediency of authorising the revenue officers to commence the collection of the public taxes earlier than they are permitted by the existing law.

The bill to explain and amend the act of 1822, authorising the County Courts to require administrators and others to give counter security upon the petition of their securities; was read and ordered to be engrossed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday, Jan. 4.

Mr. Morehead presented a bill to advance the administration of justice in Courts of Equity, and to establish Courts for that purpose; which was ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

Mr. Morehead presented a bill to emancipate slaves on certain conditions; which was ordered to lie on the table and be printed. Mr. Shepperd, a bill to prevent litigation by regulating costs in certain cases; which was read the first time and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Bain, who voted in the majority on the question of the rejection of the bill to provide for the support of the families of insolvents and the education of their children, moved for its reconsideration, which was negatived.

Friday, Jan. 5.

Messrs. Donoho, Wyche, Scott and Fisher were appointed a committee on the subject of establishing a Medical Board for this State.

On motion of Mr. Hardy, the Judiciary committee were instructed to enquire into the propriety of amending the existing laws relative to petty and malicious indictments, so as to compel the prosecutor to give bond and security for the payment of the costs of such indictments and to oblige him in all cases to pay the costs which may accrue thereon, unless he sustain the same.

Mr. Fisher offered a resolution, proposing the appointment of a joint committee of both Houses, to prepare a memorial to Congress, praying for an extinction of the remaining Indian title to lands in this State;—laid on the table.

The House went into a committee of the whole on the bill respecting the granting of licences to students of law under age; but rose without making any amendment to the bill. It was then put on its passage, and, after a short debate, rejected—81 to 39.

Saturday, Jan. 6.

On motion of Mr. Stedman, the Judiciary Committee was instructed to inquire into the expediency of compelling Sheriffs and Constables to return warrants in the district in which the defendant lives.

The resolution from the Senate, concerning the extinguishment of Indian titles to lands in this State, was ordered to lie on the table.

The resolution introduced by Mr. Fisher, on the same subject, was taken up and agreed to.

Mr. Bain, from the committee appointed to conduct the balloting for Public Printer, reported that Lawrence & Lemay were duly elected; which report was concurred in.

Mr. Martin presented the petition of Willie M'Pherson and Samuel Proctor, on the subject of a canal and Road thro' the Great Dismal Swamp, from the Dismal Swamp Canal, near the head of the woods in Camden county, to the White Oak Spring Marsh, in Gates county; which was referred to the committee of Internal Improvement, who were, on motion of Mr. Stedman, authorised to send for persons and papers.

On motion of Mr. Martin, the committee on the Judiciary were instructed to inquire into the propriety of passing a law directing the Clerks and Masters in Equity in each county of this state, to enter upon, and sell the personal estate and to collect the effects belonging to the same of such persons as die intestate, or leaving last wills and testaments, to which no executor or administrator with the will annexed, qualifies after the terms of the courts of pleas and quarter sessions of the county where the deceased last resided, have elapsed; and of providing by law the mode to be pursued by creditors and others to recover the effects of such deceased persons.

Monday, Jan. 8.

The following engrossed bills from the Senate were read the first time: The bill to make private acts printed by the Printer of the State, evidence in the Courts of the State; and the bill to authorize the justices of the County Courts of Camden and Currituck to class their justices, and for other purposes.

The resolution from the Senate, authorising the Public Treasurer to pay Arthur Hutchins $34 35 for carrying a writ of election to Perquimans county, was read the first time.

On motion of Mr. Allison, the Judiciary committee were instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing Sheriffs, in all cases of indictment for assault and battery, to receive, as a discharge from persons in indigent circumstances ordered into their custody, bond and security for the fine and costs, payable at the ensuing term.

Mr. Ellison presented a bill concerning net stakes in Pamptico River. Mr. Burns moved to amend the bill by adding the words "and in Core Sound;" which was agreed to, and the bill passed its first reading.

Received from the Governor, by his private Secretary, Mr. Campbell, a message, transmitting a resolution of the Legislature of Georgia, instructing the Senators and requesting the Representatives of that State in Congress "to promote such an alteration of the Constitution of the United States as will prevent the election of President from devolving in any event on the House of Representatives, and which, at the same time, will preserve inviolate all the rights of the States growing out of the compromises of the Constitution;" which was sent to the Senate, with a proposition that the said resolution be referred to a select committee.

Tuesday, Jan. 9.

On Motion of Mr. Foy, the committee on the Judiciary were instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the law in relation to the levying of executions by constables on insolvent debtors' lands, as to include all the executions which may be in the hands of a constable in one scire facias, and thereby incur thereon but one set of costs.

Mr Shepperd, from the committee appointed to superintend the balloting for two Judges of the Superior Courts, reported that Robert Strange was only elected.

On motion of Mr. O. B. Cox, the Judiciary committee were instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the law concerning executors and administrators, as to prevent executions, under any circumstances, from being executed on the personal estate of a testator or intestate until the executor or administrator shall have had reasonable time to obtain an order of sale of said property, and to collect the money under said sale.

The engrossed bill to authorise the justices of the County Courts of Camden and Currituck to class their justices, and for other purposes; was read the second and third times, and ordered to be enrolled.

Wednesday, Jan. 10.

Mr. Carson presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas in many parts of this State much difficulty is experienced in procuring proper persons to accept the appointment of Constable, owing, in part, to the smallness of the fees and the great responsibility under the bonds now required to be given by them:

Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the laws relative to Constables, as to allow them a certain per ce tum on all executions collected and accounted for by them.

The bill to repeal the 6th section of the act of 1803, extending the jurisdiction of a single Justice, and amending the several laws relative to the recovery of debts before a Justice of the Peace, was referred to the Judiciary committee.

Mr. Sainclair presented a bill to amend the 5th section of the act of 1791, chapter 334, entitled "An act to amend the revenue laws of this State;" which passed its first reading.

Mr. Jones, of Warren, from the committee appointed to superintend the balloting for Judge of the Superior Courts, reported that James Martin was duly elected. Concurred in.

Mr. Jones from the Judiciary committee, to whom was referred the resolution respecting sheriffs in cases of indictments, &c. reported against the expediency of making any alteration in the laws on that subject.

Mr. Jones from the same committee, reported against the expediency of making any alteration in the act of 1819, to prevent fraudulent trading with slaves.

Mr. Jones, from the same committee, reported unfavorably to the resolution respecting the expediency of amending the existing laws relative to petty and malicious indictments.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Donoho in the Chair, on the bill to alter the time of the meeting of the General Assembly; and, after some time spent therein, the committee rose, reported progress, & obtained leave to sit again.

SUPREME COURT.

Thursday Jan. 3.—The case of *Doe on the Demise of Frederick Taylor & others* vs. *Mary Saunders*, appellant, was argued by Mr. GASTON for the appellant, & Mr. BADGER for the appellees.

Friday.—In the case commenced on yesterday, Mr. BADGER concluded his argument, and Mr. GASTON replied.

Monday.—*William Bryan & others, heirs at Law of Moses Griffin, deceased, vs. Graham and others, executors and trustees of the said Griffin*—Bill of review to reverse a decree heretofore made, dismissing the plaintiffs' original bill. Mr. SEAWELL, argued this case for the plaintiffs.

Tuesday.—Mr. GASTON argued the same case for the defendants, and in support of the former decree.

Wednesday.—Mr. GASTON concluded his argument in the case last named.

Elizabeth-City:

Saturday, Jan 27, 1827.

Cold Weather.—The weather during the latter part of last week was colder than we ever experienced in this part of the country. Our river was froze up to the mouth, a distance of 20 miles; and we have understood that Albemarle sound was froze over, a circumstance that has not been known we believe since the winter of 1780—81. The ice in all our creeks was so thick, that those persons fond of the amusement, had a fine opportunity of enjoying themselves skating.

We regret to state, that John Stanley, Esq. of Newbern, Speaker of the House of Commons, was taken suddenly ill on Tuesday, 16th inst. insomuch that his life is despaired of. If his life is spared, it is not likely he will resume his seat during the present session. Gen. James Iredell was chosen Speaker pro. tem.

The bill to prevent free persons of color from migrating to this State, passed its second reading in the Senate on Wednesday the 17th inst.—yeas 45, nays 14.

Fire—An old frame building on Union street, between the Steam Boat Hotel and the Beacon Office, Norfolk, was set on fire by an incendiary on Wednesday evening last; by the activity of the fire companies it was soon extinguished without much damage being sustained.

A dreadful fire broke out in Alexandria, D. C. on the 19th inst. which destroyed property to the amount of $200,000 Some of the property was insured.

ACARD—The Captain and crew of the brig Ariel, of New-Jersey, tender their respects to Captain Rob't Bray, for his humanity in saving them from shipwreck, and for his humane treatment to them, after they were taken on board his schooner, the New Sophronia, of Elizabeth-City.

FOR THE STAR.

FREEDOM OF THOUGHT.

In contemplating the state of man, his progressive intelligence naturally solicits our attention. His susceptibility of improvement, which so conspicuously distinguishes him from the lower orders of creation, seems to indicate some intrinsic pre-eminence. And from a knowledge of the effect we are led to inquire, what is the cause of this pre-eminence?—what is the nature of that mental exertion which raises his thoughts from the ordinary scenes and the groveling objects of sense, to the contemplation of the beauty and sublimity of the universe?—what can induce him to reject the established sentiments of his ancestors and the more endearing precepts of parental instruction? The cause is obvious. In his bosom exists a predominant agent, constituted, from a sense of mutual advantage, by a combination of all his mental faculties. It directs him through his laborious but agreeable journey of life, and casts a cheering lustre on all the objects of human disquisition. This we would call *freedom of thought:* Of all his mental exertions, the most efficient—the most characteristic of the design of this origin. Guided by this and a benevolent disposition, he becomes acquainted with himself, organizes civil government and extends the blessings of society to all within his power. This active *agent*, from the first dawn of man's existence, has made some faint but successful struggles in spite of human degradation, the frowns of ambition, or the turmoils of anarchy.—After remaining buried beneath the rubbish of many centuries, it resumed its wonted energy, rescued its concomitant powers of mind from degrading ignorance and the absurd dogmas of the schoolmen, and obtained residence among the British nation. England! the proud mistress of the polite and literary world, the majestic queen of the seas and the envy of mankind, first broke the chains of fettered intellect, and gave presaging proof that a new mental dynasty was fast approaching. Her political and relgious institutions underwent a shock of reformation. The preposterous and opposite qualities of implicit credulity and unlimited scepticism were assailed by the cogent arguments and obvious principles of true philosophy. The memorable æra of 1620 presented to an astonished world, in the acme of its glory, the illustrious Bacon, the morning star of erudition, and the harbinger of mental emancipation. This unrivalled genius breaking the shakles of sophistry, and opposing the torrents of ignorance and delusion, surveyed the vast and unexplored regions of science, ascended the highest eminence of fame and now is blest with the grateful remembrance of a grateful posterity. Upheld by the native energies of his mind, Bacon was bold to declare to the bigoted philosophers, infatuated with the long prevaling doctrines of Plato and Aristotle, that his system was absurd;—that it was an imposition on the world and must soon give way to the all powerful revolution that was rapidly advancing. Directed by his constant companion, *freedom of thought*, he soon traversed the old dreary wastes of philosophical speculation, drained its marshes of stagnant waters and laid a foundation for the sublimest superstructure. And now the fair forms of nature, divested of that almost impenetrable veil of ingenious sophistry and servile imitation which so long conciliated their native beauty, are presented to the contemplation of the enlightened enquirer. Now, that philosophy, instead of being involved in a horrid mass of absurdities, has become a pleasing science; now, that blind uncertainty no longer accompanies her route, where is *he* that can venture to direct her chariot up the steep hill of fame? Where is *he*, who "with awful wing" can "pursue the comet through the long elliptic course?"

Who "around innumerous worlds" can wind his way,
"And in the trembling nations shake dismay?"

The name of Newton need not be mentioned! The poverty of language to attempt an eulogy on his memory, or the consequences of his immortal discoveries, becomes too glaring. Would we know his character?—would we know his employment? Behold him on the wings of morning, gliding through the etherial expanse, and holding converse with the Deity himself. View him in his high abode making intercessions with the *Great Supreme* to facilitate the means of meliorating the condition of the nations of the earth? Happy for man, his labours have not been fruitless! The glory of his memory still shines with resplendent brightness in all the christianized countries of the world. All acknowledge the supremacy of his genius:—all have shared the benefits of his industry.

But what, may we ask, have been the ultimate consequences to those countries of this mental emancipation which he and his followers have most gloriously effected? And how extensive has been their influence on the present state of nations?

Without regarding the astonishing effects of those deistical productions which flowed in torrents from France, from Italy, from Germany—and deluged the libertine world—let us attend to the *beneficial* effects of *freedom* of *thought* in the formation of modern politics. England, whose philosophy first led the way in the grand procession, possesses a government that makes her people industrious, virtuous, happy. Her political and literary institutions have become illustrious from the many venerable personages that have alternately graced their departments. France, whose former destinies seem to have been committed to the wings of the wind, now enjoys a greater share of national prosperity and liberal sentiments than she ever has, since the organization of her government. She has learned a lesson which monarchs had hitherto disdained to learn.

Russia! that majestic giantess of a century, with wide spread arms enclosing the Arctic Pole, stalks abroad in conscious dignity and prescribes the limits of political measures to the eastern hemisphere. Arisen from a hard and cruel condition, and nurtured in the cold unrelenting frosts of the frigid zone, rushing forth from the hoary mountains, with agility and power, she rescued her wandering tribes from the abyss of barbarism, organized them into a body politic, and now presents a monument of national grandeur.

How stands the case with Germany, that mighty field of war and bloodshed? By what principle of moral or political conduct are her enterprizing sons actuated? What is the state of improvement in that country? Within the last fifty years, the entire frame of her society has been regenerated, not so much by any very favourable single circumstance, as by the internal conspiring operation of the excited intellect of the country. The pride and spirit of the people have grown up together with this new demonstration of intellectual strength. Political measures, aroused by the free spirit of the age and crowned with the most brilliant success, have consolidated that heterogeneous mass of character and principles, which now, instead of three hundred sovereignties that existed forty years ago, consist of but three or four of any considerable importance. And they too are tottering to their foundations, before that acute and powerful spirit of modern times, which, like the distant murmurings of an approaching storm, must fill them with awful apprehensions, and at length lay waste the gloomy field of tyrannical oppression. They too must feel the scourge of reformation, and submit to the guidance of *genuine freedom of thought*. Much unlike this distracted state of the Germanic Confederation, the kingdoms of Denmark, Sweden and Norway present an anomaly in the annals of politics. Although invested with absolute power, their sovereigns, dreading the blasts of the surrounding flame, and actuated by motives partly pure and partly interested, guide the helm of government with the most cautious and moderate hand. But change the scene and view along the shores of the Archipelago, passing from island to island, the unconquerable spirit of public opinion, paralyzing the timid and submissive feelings of the Greeks, arousing their *noble* and heroic powers and enforcing them to declare to God and to man that the descendants of *Homer* and *Leonidas* will be obsequious slaves no longer!

Far from this is the case of Spain. The political existence of that ill-fated monarchy which once swayed the councils of Europe; but which has become a disgusting spectacle of national indolence and human imbecility, is now no more. The age of Charles V. has passed away and Spain, no longer worthy of remaining an independent nation, must submit to the impositions of the "*Holy Firm.*" Yet this national apathy cannot long exist. The cause of freedom must ultimately prevail. The spirit of unconstrained enquiry has formed the procession, crowding, striding intently on; but it is only those who stand aloof, to drop behind the age and linger on the old wastes, who fully mark the length the grand array of the triumph; who can see it passing from region to region, winding along the heights of cloud-capt mountains, descending like an inundation, upon the ramparts of tyranny and oppression, and compassing new continents in its march. Soon all may see in the western hemisphere, the arch of its glory resting on the shores of Maine, bending with a gentle curve and brilliant hue over these fertile States, and terminating its glowing colours on the plains of *Panama*.

JUNIUS BRUTUS.

Congressional Summary.

19TH CONGRESS..2ND SESSION.

[*From the National Journal.*]

MONDAY, Jan. 15.—The Senate did not sit on Saturday.

In the House of Representatives, the discussion of the Bill to make provision for the officers and soldiers of the army of the Revolution was resumed; but no question was taken. Mr. *Wickliffe* made a few observations on his amendment, and was followed by Mr. *Test* and Mr. *Clarke* against the Bill, and Mr. *Sprague* and Mr. *Drayton*, on the other side. Mr. *Worms* also obtained the floor, and then yielded it to a motion of adjournment.

TUESDAY, Jan. 16.—In the Senate yesterday, a bill was reported authorizing those purchasers of Public Lands who had relinquished the same, to repurchase them at a fixed price. Mr. *Cobb* submitted a resolution proposing an inquiry into the expediency of compensating the Third Auditor for services rendered under an act of March 3d, 1825. The bill for increasing the salary of the Post Master General was taken up, further discussed, and passed.

The House of Representatives was occupied in the renewed discussion on the Bill to provide for the surviving officers and soldiers of the army of the Revolution, when the amendment proposed by Mr. *Wickliffe*, to include the heirs and representatives of the officers who have died, was carried by a vote of 101 to 80.

The adoption of this amendment may be considered as decisive of the fate of the bill.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 17.—In the Senate yesterday, a bill was reported providing for the examination of sites in the western country, with the view for the establishment of a national armory. A bill was reported from the Committee on Finance, for appropriating one million of dollars, hitherto authorized to be kept in the Treasury, to the purpose of the sinking fund. Bills for the increase of the navy, and for taking evidence in United States Courts, was read a second time. In the House, a copy of the convention negociated between the Government of the U. States and G. Britain, on the subject of property taken away last war, was presented. [One half the amount, $602,480 has been received, and is at the disposition of Congress.] The bill for the relief of surviving officers of the Revolution, was taken up.

THURSDAY, Jan. 18.—In the Senate yesterday, the bill making an appropriation for Revolutionary Officers and other pensioners of the United States, was read twice, and ordered to a third reading.

In the House of Representatives, the motion of Mr. *Burges*, to take up the bill making provision for the surviving officers of the Revolution was rejected. The House then, on motion of Mr. *Mallary*, went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and took up the bill for the alteration of the acts imposing duties on imports, when Mr. *Mallary*, in a lucid speech, which occupied near two hours, explained his own views, and those of the Committee, in relation to our manufactures. On motion of Mr. *Cambreleng*, the Committee then rose, and the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, Jan. 19.—In the Senate yesterday, the bill from the House of Representatives, granting a township of land for the support of a seminary of learning in the Territory of Arkansas, was reported without amendment. The bill from the House of Representatives making appropriations for the revolutionary and other pensioners of the United States, was read a third time and passed. The Bankrupt Bill was taken up; the amendments adopted in committee of the whole were agreed to provisionally; and the bill, as amended, was read by sections.

In the House of Representatives, yesterday, after the resolutions had been all offered, a brief discussion took place on the subject of the bill to alter the several acts imposing duties on Imports. It was moved by *Mr. Buchanan* to discharge the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union from the further consideration of the bill, with a view to follow up the motion with another, to lay the bill on the table.

Saturday, Jan. 20.—In the Senate, yesterday, *Mr. Harrison*, by unanimous consent, introduced a joint resolution for appropriating ten thousand dollars to the indigent sufferers by the late fire in Alexandria, was referred.

A message received yesterday from the President, by the House of Representatives, communicating a report from the Secretary of State, and the correspondence between *Mr.* Clay and Chevalier Huggens, on the subject of the discriminating duties exacted in the Netherlands, on importations in American vessels.

Translated for the National Journal.
[From the Gaceta de Colombia, of November 26.]

Decree of the Executive Power.

SIMON BOLIVAR, Liberator, President of Colombia.

Taking into consideration, 1st The state of agitation in which the Republic now finds itself, in consequence of the transactions in Venezuela, and that it is divided in opinion with regard to the political administration, and alarmed at the prospect of a civil war, and an invasion from abroad by the common enemy. 2d That there are well founded reason for apprehending that the Spanish Government intends to renew hostilities with the forces which it is assembling in the island of Cuba. 3d. That the majority of the Departments have declared it as their opinion that the President of the Republic should be invested with such extraordinary powers as may be indispensably necessary to re-establish the national integrity, and preserve Colombia from civil and foreign war; and 4th. That the Executive Power has already declared itself to be within the case of article 128 of the Constitution, and has therefore opportunely convoked the Congress; and desiring on the one hand to correspond to the confidence of the people, and on the other to preserve the present Constitution until the nation, by legitimate and competent means, may effect a reform of it, I have concluded, upon consultation with the Council of Government, to decree, and do decree the following:

Article 1. From this day forward, I am, as President of the Republic, within the case of article 128 of the Constitution, and in the exercise of all the extraordinary powers emanating from it, both for the purpose of re-establishing internal tranquility & for securing the Republic against anarchy and external war.

Art. 2. In my absence from this capital, the Vice-President of the Republic, being charged with the executive power, will exercise the said extraordinary powers in all parts of the territory where they cannot be immediately exercised by me.

Art. 3. Except with regard to the matters and affairs which may be decided to come within the scope of the exercise of the said extraordinary powers, the constitution and laws will be duly observed.

Art. 4. An account will be rendered to the next Congress of all that may be done in virtue of this decree, as is provided in the said article 128 of the Constitution

Dated the 23d Nov. 1826, and signed by Gen. *Bolivar* and the Secretary of State for Domestic Affairs.

On the 16th of November, the Charges'd'Affaires of Mexico, England and the United States, were presented to the LIBERATOR, by Sr. Revenga, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs. They severally addressed the Liberator, and he made to each a separate reply. The following is his answer to Col. WATTS:

"I receive with the greatest pleasure the congratulation which you Sir, as Charge d'Affaires of the United States, have addressed me in the name of your Government and of the nation to which you belong: and they are so much the more satisfactory to me, as the United States of America were the first who sent a Minister Plenipotentiary to Colombia—as they have been, and are the people who are our model—who unite the greatest sum of social happiness to the power which ensures tranquility—to the power which insures true liberty. The U. States, the children of Great Britain, were the first to point out to us the path that lead to independence; and this land, which has the honor of having been discovered by the great Columbus, places it happiness in imitating the examples of glory, of liberty and virtue, which it receives from the United States Colombia appreciates them as the most salutary lessons of advice. And here I must express my gratitude personally for the invaluable present made me by the august family of Washington, of the picture of the most venerable of men—a present beyond all estimation, which I will always preserve in my bosom and which will always give me lessons of moderation and of love to my country. I beg of you, Sir, to be the channel of my sentiments towards the Government of that happy nation; and in transmitting them, to express the desire of Colombia to cultivate with it relations of the strictest and most sincere friendship; as well as my personal admiration and respect for its illustrious President, whose opinions with respect to the American Congress, give it a solemnity which it had no right to look for."

DIED,

In this County, on Friday the 19th inst. after an illness of 20 days, Mr. THADDEUS FRESHWATER, sen'r.

On Monday last, Mrs. MARY MANSARD, consort of Jno. B. Mansard, of this county.

Marine News.

PORT OF ELIZABETH-CITY.

ARRIVED.

25th, Schr. Joseph, Crowell, from New-York, with potatoes and salt to A. Fobes, jun.

" Schr. Susan & Hope, Kelly, N. York, merchandize to B. Tisdale and Wm. Messinger.

" Schr. Success, Oliver, N. York, in ballast.

" Schr. Sally Davis, Smith, N. Y. in ballast.

26th, Schr. Sally Ann, Thompson, Beaufort in ballast.

" Schr. New Packet, Pit, 22 days from Granada, in distress, having sails much blown to pieces, and bowsprit broke in three places. In coming up the river, had her sheathing cut through in many places, and inner plank considerably injured by the ice.

" Schr. Enterprise, Sylvester, 50 days from Boston, in ballast. Experienced much rough weather on the passage, and sustained damage in sails and rigging.

CLEARED.

23d, Schr. William & John, Crockett, for St. Barts, staves and shingles by A. Fobes, jr.

To clear to-day.

Schr. Chance, French, for West Indies, staves by H. N. Williams.

DEPARTED.

25th, Schr. William Henry, Keen, Boston, staves and corn by A. Fobes, jun. and N. Tucker.

" Schr. George Washington, Jenkins, Boston, corn by A. Fobes, Jun.

Arrangement of the Mails.

The mail from Edenton to Norfolk, via the Dismal Swamp Canal, arrives here from the former place, Tuesdays at 2 o'clock, and closes for Norfolk at 8 o'clock the same evening.

The same mail arrives here from Norfolk Fridays at 7 o'clock and closes at 9 o'clock the same evening for Edenton.

The mail from this place to Norfolk, via the Great Bridge, is closed Saturdays at 12 o'clock, and arrives at Norfolk Sundays. Leaves Norfolk Mondays, and is due here on Tuesdays at 12 o'clock.

Isaiah Fearing, P. M.

Elizabeth-City, Jan. 27, 1827.

POETRY.

ORIGINAL POEMS,

COMPOSED FOR THE STAR,

BY BENJAMIN S BULFINCH.

To Rosalind.

You, whom kind Nature form'd with ev'ry charm,
Adorn'd with ev'ry captivating grace,
In manners gentle, and in Friendship warm
Nor less distinguish'd by your mind than face!

You taught me first, and you alone have taught
Union of souls, and unabated love!
The pleasing bliss—of "thought still meeting thought,"
And all the happiness that's felt above.

In summer oft we'd walk the dewy green,
And there delighted heard the Robin sing,
When thee I view'd, like unto beauty's queen,
Feelings of bliss did to my bosom bring.

I ask'd my heart, if this alone was love,
And if no hope did yet await for me?
Ah, yes! it throb'd, we reap more joys above,
Which in perspective now, you only see.

There is in heaven, a pure celestial joy,
Unknown to beings on this earthly sphere;
Pleasures divine, can never, never cloy,
And Rosalind, I hope, will meet them there.

Lines on Woman.

The man that does dear Woman's love despise,
With all his Candor, never can be wise;
On every peril, will she not attend,
Soother of sorrow, comforter, and friend?
Some guardian angel from the shores of bliss,
Mixed ambrosia with a Woman's kiss!
Planted a diamond in her beaming eye,
Then, from her breast arose th' willing sigh.
He that doth hate them is a brainless elf,
A foe to Reason, and unto himself;
Affection ne'er arose within his breast,
And he's a brute at most, must be confess'd.

The Tailor's Dream.

Snip was a Tailor of the first rate grade,
And fond of *cabbage* as is all his trade:
One night as on his downy bed he lay,
Consoling Morpheus stole his sense away,
He had a dream, O, horrible to relate,
Death's Angel with large shears in council sate!
The ghosts of all Snip's *cabbage* there was seen,
Silks, sattins, cambrics and bombazeen,
The Tailor 'wakened in a dreadful fright,
And made a vow from that very night
To cabbage no more, and call'd his boy,
'William, I charge you, who e'er me employ,
If you do see me clip one piece away,
Bawl out *cabbage* and my hand I stay.'
The boy was punctual, but at length a prize
Of richest sattin, caught the Tailor's eyes,
And as usual, did advise his master
Of Death's Angel, which forebode disaster;
Hush your rude tongue, I say, and bring the sheers,
I'll have a piece, should he cut off my ears.'
Thus custom urges us where'er we go,
And follows rich, or poor, or high, or low.

Epitaph on a Gamester.

Beneath this sod lies Pleasure's slave,
Who turn'd up *Jack* and prov'd a *knave;*
The Devil did want his path to trace,
And took the *trick* by *leading ace.*
But why not take off such vile things,
Since he's made prize of *queens* and *kings?*
Now he has been old Satan's hack,
He'll mix him well among hell's *pack*
And if he *cuts* up more such *tricks,*
Satan well knows, how him to fix:
He cannot make the wretch too *low,*
Who scoffed at anothers woe.

On an Infant.

Fair blossom of the early Spring,
Wafted to heaven on zephyr's wing!
This world of pain was not for thee,
For God has set thy spirit free,
Unto the realms of endless day,
Angels have borne thy soul away!
Who would regret the happy change,
If they ambrosial fields could range,
And taste the joys of Eden's bowers,
Among its amarantnine flowers?
The Almighty saw thy career at first,
And kindly mingled thee with dust.

THE ART OF POETRY.

"An English or a French Poet, (says Chesterfield,) at the beginning of his work invokes Apollo, the God of Poetry; he also invokes the Nine Muses, who are Goddesses of Poetry. He intreats them to be propitious, or favourable; and to inspire him with their Genius. Apollo is often named the God of Parnassus."

MISCELLANEOUS.

FOR THE STAR.

"The palace of loud Fame, her seat of pow'r,
Plac'd on the summit of a lofty tow'r;
A thousand winding entries, long and wide,
Receive of fresh reports a flowing tide."
GARTH'S OVID.

Those who are conversant with the ancient classical writers, will recollect, that many of them touched upon the subject of Fame, in order to illustrate the ardent desires inherent in the human mind, to climb the rugged steep where her "bright temple shines afar," and around whose base all the malignant passions abide. Perhaps, no ancient Poet has received more praise, or incurred less censure, than Ovid, the immortal author of the "Metamorphosis," and the "Art of Love." To say that he was a model for Poets of later days, would be no more than truth, for we find precisely the same sentiments in Chaucer's *House of Fame*, which Mr. Pope has rendered into plain English, by taking the sentiments of Chaucer, and adding some of his own beautiful metaphors. Thus, has Ovid become the father, originally, of one of the best Poems known in the annals of Literature, and one too, that has been no discredit to his English imitators. That the Latin and Greek authors, had a happy facility in expressing the various passions to the upmost perfection, we learn from a diligent perusal of their orations, poems, and other productions; and I am fully persuaded, that they knew better how to delineate them, than do the moderns. Athens, was allowed to be the great store-house of learning and the arts in Greece; when Horace and Virgil were studying "tuneful verse at Rome," and enjoying all the luxuries to be found in the splendid court of Augustus Cæsar, the Athenians were in reality rendering their capital a Temple of Fame, by cultivating the higher and most difficult branches of science, which tended to destroy, in a measure, that spirit of discord, which in Rome, followed the orgies of Bacchus, and other heathen rites. The intestine wars, fomented by barbarous nations, it might be supposed would sunder these delightful pursuits of literature, and render the acadian groves of the Athenians, a useless waste. But it was not so, that wise and energetic people knew too well the value of learning, to be troubled at a little petty warfare with a people they could easily conquer, and whose ignorance occasioned their hostility. It will be seen in the text, that Ovid describes the house of Fame, as containing "a thousand winding entries, long and wide," and makes them the receptacles of scandal—thus, we are lead to believe, that evil reports are of no modern origin, but were customary at least among the Romans in his time. It were, indeed, to be deeply deplored, that such a vice as Detraction ever found an asylum in the human family—it is not only a fell destroyer of reputation, but is a compound of malice and lies. But let us inquire more minutely into our authors meaning—did he intend to convey to our understandings, that these "thousand winding entries" contained each a distinct report, or that they were promiscuously scattered among the whole? If we take the latter meaning, the Temple of Fame would be a very hateful residence, and few would be willing to become famous on such terms. It is obvious, however, that a great difference exists between common and well merited fame; the first is the offspring of envy, and is produced from many sources, while the other is always obtained by those honorable exertions which marks the career through life of the upright man, carrying him safely along through all the mysterious labyrinths of Ovid's entries; the din of scandal cannot harm him—he soars where suns never rise or set, but forms a perennial glory around him, while Virtue guides his footsteps to the eternal shores of Paradise, "where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest."

The word Fame according to Ovid, is synonymous with the word *report*, and the same meaning is attached to it by all lexicongraphers. But it has other, and more important meanings, such as *renown, glory, reputation*, &c. These last excellencies most men seek to obtain, in order to become great, or to satisfy a lust for Ambition. It was to gain this point, that Alexander sought victory, and persevered until he conquered the then inhabitable part of the world, and wept because he had not another world to conquer! The examples of heroes are very apt to be cardinal points with some men, without the consideration that they marched to glory over the dead bodies of millions of their fellow beings, and murdered whole colonies of people to gain the empty title of *Great*. Cæsar prided himself in his victories, as we may see by his celebrated motto of "*veni, vidi, vici*" Mark the end of these sons of Fame—the first died in a fit of madness, after attempting to drink the contents of the cup of Hercules, which contained at least a gallon of wine, a proof, that he who subdued a world, could not subdue himself!—and the latter was rewarded for his perfidy by the daggers of Brutus and Cinna. Turn we our eyes to the transactions of the last century, what scenes of bloodshed and carnage break upon the astonished imagination!—and all on account of two aspirants after Fame, Charles XII, of Sweden and Peter I, of Russia. These men delighted in depopulating villages, slaughtering their subjects, and squandering away millions, because they sought after Fame. At length a cannon ball at the siege of Frederickshall, happily made the throne of Sweden vacant, and Peter died of the gravel, in 1725, to the great joy of his subjects. In later times a Napoleon flourished; but his unqualified exile and melancholy death will long be a deep reproach upon his oppressors; he acquired Fame by a noble military ardour.

When fame is purchased by warfare and tyranny, it may flourish for a few centuries, and then drop into its merited oblivion; but honest Fame lives forever, no wreck of ages can obliterate it from the page of history—there the names of *Cincinnatus, Cato, Columbus, Washington, Franklin* and *Jefferson*, will remain recorded, because they gained reputation by fair and honorable means. They were not tyrants themselves, but resisted tyrants, and their names are, from that circumstance, entitled to veneration. Fortune has not always been favorable unto princes, as we may see by the accounts of James II, of England, and most of the Stuart family, Peter III, of Russia, Theodore, King of Corsica, who wandered a beggar through the streets of London, and Thaddeus Sobeiski of Poland.

If I were to draw the picture of Ambition, it should be like that of a tiger bathed in blood, and destroying mankind. In its aspect, there is nothing great—all is hidious, and cold as hibernal snows. The destruction of human life occasioned by so detestable a passion, is enough to render it odious to every virtuous mind. It is said, that after one of the battles fought by Xerxes, who was also called *Great*, the dead bodies were so numerous, that it took twenty days to burn them! But there is a laudable Ambition in Literature, which never fails to make those famous who contend for the prize and win it. It is, however, too evident, that if a man of Genius attempts to rise in the world, by dint of application, long study, and peseverance, he is immediately surrounded by Envy, Detraction, and every odious passion, who combine to destroy his character, and if they cannot succeed in that, the spirit of criticism is resorted to, and every portion of his composition is minutely examined in order to find some trifling error. Some of the ancient Poets, Horace particularly, became famous, because they were virtuous; but although most of their poems are excellent, I do not doubt that our magazines and newspapers have contained far better Poetry, than any that Horace or Virgil ever wrote. We have yet a *Boston Bard*, a *Percival*, a *Woodworth*, and many other elegant writers, who would do honor to any age or county. Fame has been lavish of her favours to many who do not deserve them; among those who will forever enjoy a niche in her temple, are the proud names of *Shakespeare, Milton, Cervantes, Pope, Byron, Burns*, and *Walter Scott*—they had Nature for their guide, and what are the humours of Lucian, the epigrams of Martial, or the trifles of Anacreon, when compared to their writings? Plato, Socrates, and Cicero, methinks, would appear silly in such company, who shone with superior resplendance, whose excellence were inimitable, and who never soared

"Beyond the fix'd and stated rules
Of vice and virtue, in the schools—
Beyond the letter of the law!"

I do not know whether it was the custom in Ovid's time, for people to encourage so glaring a vice as tale-bearing, but certain it is, that among the Spartans, a tattler was considered as a monster, who ought to be carefully avoided; the company of such a one was shunned as an enemy to the commonwealth and the people. How strangely do the sentiments of men change, what was considered as a crime in Sparta, is now secretly encouraged; spies, eve-droppers, and informers are numerous, and many are paid for their services by those whose duty it is to endeavor to discourage such creatures. It is not uncommon, now, to behold bare-faced liars stalking about, speaking evil of all who have any characters to lose. It is an old saying, "that a tale loses nothing by the telling;" first it is rumoured over the town by some busy-body, then it is whispered about, and at last spoken aloud—a third person adds more to it, taking care to make the circumstances as bad as possible. Ingratitude is allowed to be the most pernicious of all vices, because it is the parent of all others—it has been contended that a religious person cannot be ungrateful, but it is presumption to say so, for who can see into the human heart, and behold the malice that lies centred there? Gratitude on the other hand, is a pure essence of the soul, and gives delight to those who practise it—to them, all is sunshine and joy, no gloomy forebodings of the mind are felt by them, no hidious phantoms haunt their pillows, because all is peace within. The proud or discontented man cannot be grateful—he is always suspicious of his neighbor, and thinks himself superior to all other men. Let him remember that Pride caused the fall of Lucifer from the abodes of light, and that he who is not grateful to God, cannot be trusted by man. Gratitude is a moral obligation, and there can be no reasonable excuse for the want of it.

Parents should be particularly careful how they speak before their children—they should recollect, that "little pitchers have big ears," and that children are never backward in spreading scandalous reports; what they hear, they retain, and by their officiousness, create a vast deal of mischief. Nor are they, altogether, to blame, for it is perfectly natural with them, to believe whatever they hear their father or mother say; thus, mistaking the most abominable lies for truth, they promulgage them to the manifest injury of society. I have known some parents who prided themselves in tattling, and who under the disguise of Friendship, became busy meddlers in the affairs of others. Let them beware of such folly, as indecent and unbecoming. It is impossible for them, if they continue to follow such a course, to climb "the summit" of reputation, but must forever be doomed to inhabit some of the "thousand winding entries" found in the temple of common Fame.

As to myself, it is of very trifling importance what people say—every one will have his thoughts, according to the eccentricity of his disposition. Virgil has instructed me that "Vulnus alit venis, et cœco carpitur igni,' is the lot of all who wander from the path of Reason, therefore, a common defamer is unworthy my notice. It can be of little consequence whether I am called a "little hunchback," or a *Poet*, they are both misfortunes. It is my desire to make Truth apparent to all minds, and he who will not be convinced, the fault lies not with me.

Last Sunday, I was ruminating upon the words of my text, when the following lines entered my mind, which are here introduced as a specimen of the workings of the imagination, during moments of leisure:

TO FAME.

The workings of the human mind,
Are subject to immortal Fame;
Her footsteps tread upon the wind,
She doth each child of sorrow claim.

Yes, 'tis thine, Goddess, to bestow
The green and never fading wreath,
Soother of sorrow, balm of woe,
And guide thro' dreary paths of Death.

Ovid has told what thou hast been,
Immortal Pope, what thou wilt be!
Thy temple stands on heights serene,
Amid the blaze of orient day.

Come, let my footsteps trace each grove,
Where Truth and Energy appear!
With Fancy, there, I fain would rove,
And not remain a captive here.

Upon thy hill each votary strays,
Nor do they fear the stings of pain;
Thou art a shelter from that maze,
Where triflers think alone on Gain.

If I have been the sport of power,
Thou ever art my trusty friend;
Tho' Fortune and the fates do lower,
I will endure unto the end.

Those who can be happy under any circumstances of life, and whose consciences are free from guilt, need not fear the machinations of those whose trade is to circulate false reports.

BENJAMIN S. BULFINCH.

Elizabeth-City, January 27, 1827.

FOR THE STAR.

Mr. Albertson—the *Guess Work*, I sent you last week, has been generally acknowledged to be something more than mere *reckoning*. I send you a few more paragraphs, and hope they will have a good effect. Yours,

RUBICILLA.

More Guess Work.

When I see an old maid trimming up her eye-brows, and imitating the young romps she effects to despise, I *guess* she is looking out for a beau.

When I behold an old bachelor laced up in a corslet, and a dandy hat mounted on his head, I *guess* he is not such an enemy to the fair sex as he would have people believe.

When I see a young girl sporting with a *rake*, I *guess* she will soon find out the use of the *cradle*.

When I see a farmer's wife and daughters dressed up in flashy merino shawls and Leghorn bonnets, I *guess* it would be more to their credit to be attending to their dairy, spinning-wheel, or loom.

When I hear a quack praising his own medicine, I *guess* he has more impudence than knowledge.

When I hear a merchant praise his goods, and tell his customers that he sells them below cost, I *guess* they wont believe him.

When I see a modern fine lady tripping along the streets as if the earth was not fit for her to walk on, I *guess* if she becomes a wife, her husband will regret that he ever saw her.

When I see a man who lays claim to the character of a Philosopher, discussing knotty points over a bottle of brandy in a tavern, I *guess* he had better be at home pursuing his studies.

When I behold a *Printer* trusting his papers to any and every body, I *guess* he will have to wait a long while before he gets his pay.

FOR THE STAR.

DIALOGUE OF THE DEAD.

Enter Mercury and St Ursula.

Mercury—So you say that you was an abbess to a nunnery, and had less than fifty thousand virgins in your care at one time

St. Ursula—Indeed, sir, it is strictly true, fifty thousand of as pure virtals as ever lived.

Mercury—But where did you find room for them all? there is not a convent on earth that would hold them.

Ursula—That is true, sir, as to present times, but in my day the convents were much larger than they are at present.

Mercury—That is a good one. I would be extremely glad to know where all these ladies are at present.

Ursula—On the banks of the River Styx, Sir, waiting for a passage over to the Elysian Fields. Charon says his boat is leaky, and that he cannot take them in without your orders.

Mercury—They shall be ferried over to Pluto's dominions, where I will take care they are set to beating hemp. But who is that coming yonder, with an old black spear, and a coat of mail.

Enter St Christopher.

Well, friend, whence did you come from? you appear in a great hurry.

St. Christopher—So would you sir, if you had made such an escape.

Mercury—An escape from what?

Christopher—Why I swam over the arm of the Mediterranean sea, with my head in my mouth.

Mercury—Think you, that I am a fool enough to believe such stuff?

Christopher—'Tis true, sir, and for the virtue of this, (*holding up the spear*) my head was restored to my shoulders again?

Mercury—By virtue of an old rusty spear, such a miracle was wrought!

Christopher—'Tis no spear, 'tis St Dennis.

Enter Charon.

Mercury—Charon, take these impostors to the shades—set Ursula and her fifty thousand virgins to beating hemp; and as to this fellow he must help you to row the boat over the Styx.

[*Exeunt.*

SELECTED.

Coincidence—Shakespeare and Cervantes, the admirable author of Don Quixotte, both died on the same day, April 23d, 1616, and nearly at the same hour.

The Catholic Church erecting at Montreal is the largest building on this Continent. When completed it will accommodate 10,000 persons. The building is now far advanced, and will be covered at the opening of the next season. $108,506 has already been expended. The Church Wardens report that with an additional of $40,000, they are authorized to borrow, and $20,000 expected to be received on subscription, they will be enabled to finish the exterior of the edifice, with the exception of two large front towers, which will remain unfinished eighty feet under the intended height of 200 feet.

A king of Arabia shewing his courtiers a Damascus sword that had been presented to him, it was the general opinion that it was too short. The king's son, who was present, observed, that there was no weapon too short for a brave man, for he had nothing to do but to advance a step further to make it *long* enough. The sufficiency of the heart is all that is wanting in the sight of God.

Dress the Mind—On the Sunday morning before going to church, what a dressing there is among all classes, and what a stir to appear neat and pleasing! Is it quite sufficient for the great purposes of our existence to wash the outside? Curls nicely arranged, fine tortoise shell combs fixed, sparkling ear rings hanging, rich garments displayed, and perhaps the gay fair one's mind may be poisoned with conceit, troubled with rivalry, and kept on the torture by ignorance and vanity. Windsor soap does not wash out the stains of the heart; Cologne water cannot shed a fragrance over an impure mind; nor will all the rubies of Golconda dazzle the recording angel into forgetfulness of filling up the leaves of the book of retribution.

A Touch at the Sublime—Bright was the morn on spicy gale—all creation shouted for joy, and fragrant were the meadows, when Flora walked forth to feed her chickens!